

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

October, 1988

Vol. 43 No. 6

310 Madison Avenue, Suite 2116; New York, NY 10017

(212) 983-4655

Up-and-Coming

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 5:30 p.m.—Charles Z. Wick, director of the United States Information Agency, reports on U.S.-Soviet meetings in Moscow to broaden media relations between the two countries.

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m.—OPC's semi-annual membership meeting. Women's National Republican Club, 3 W. 51st St.

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 5:30 p.m.—Mitchell Stephens, author, "A History of News: From the Drum to the Satellite."

(Programs at Women's National Republican Club, 3 W. 51st St. Members free, guests \$5. Cash bar. Reservations required. Call Mary Novick 212-983-4655.)

NEW MEMBERS

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT
Cheetah Haysom

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT
Charles Henderson
Joseph Michenfelder

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT
Benjamin Franklin Price

Getting Your Money's Worth

London Yours at Moderate Rates

OPC members who tell horror stories of London hotels which failed to honor their reservations or whose rates soared magically while they soared across the Atlantic can breathe easier. Now they have Sloane's to count on.

It is a lovely traditional club with wonderful British touches like trousers-pressers, shoeshine servants and high tea at 3:30 each afternoon, says Charles Dorn, manager of the Chemists' Club.

The hotel is situated on the borders of Chelsea and Belgravia near Sloane Square from which it is an easy walk to museums and Harrod's department store.

And it is moderately priced. Rates have gone up since the Blakeney Hotels, owners of both the Sloane and the Chemists' Club building, made the reciprocal agreement. But a single room

without a bath is still under \$100 and the most expensive room, a double with bath, can be had for under \$150. The rate varies with the value of the dollar. This includes a club breakfast and guest fees.

Moreover, the reservation is firm. Dorn points out that Sloane is careful not to overbook.

To get a reservation call either Dorn or his assistant, Monique Billingsly, (212-532-7649). The Chemists' Club will FAX London, advise you of rates, and promptly provide you with confirmation.

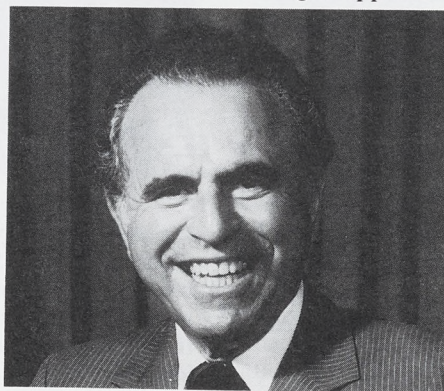
Bring Cash or Traveler's Checks! Sloane's hotel managers do not accept credit cards of any kind. Nor will they permit charges to the Chemists' Club. They take cash and Traveler's checks

Wick to Address OPC Oct. 18

USIA Director Challenges Soviets On Mis-and-Disinformation Tactics

Charles Z. Wick wears a lot of hats—lawyer, businessman, financier, movie mogul, public relations man, and politician. But his ten-gallon hat is that of World's Number One Salesman. His product: America and its ideology.

Wick put it on March 6, 1981 when his good friend President Reagan appointed



Charles Z. Wick without his hats.

him director of the United States Information Agency and he immediately declared a war of words on the Soviet Union's well-oiled propaganda machine.

Since then, the USIA has overwhelmed Communist countries at their own game. Best known among its programs is *WORLDNET* live global satellite television network. It links Washington with U.S. embassies and posts overseas and provides news and feature programs for foreign broadcasts. There is also *Radio Marti* which gives Fidel Castro fits by beaming its message 17 hours a day to news-hungry Cubans.

Now Wick has bearded the Russian Bear in his own den. He has just returned from Moscow where he attended two Soviet-American conferences on information issues.

He will report on the results of those talks at his meeting with Overseas Press Club members and guests, at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 18, at the Women's National Republican Club, 3 W. 51st St. (For reservations call Mary Novick 212-983-4655.)

Wick led a delegation of 65 government officials, media and business figures, including publisher Malcom Forbes Jr., George Grune of *Reader's Digest*, William Read of *Public Broadcasting Service*, and executives from *Newsweek*, *Time*, *Inc.* *National Geographic*, *United Press International*, *Hearst Newspapers* and *TV Guide*.

High on the agenda at the meetings was the issue of disinformation propaganda and misinformation activities aimed at the U.S. Wick will discuss the results of these talks.

With all his successes, Wick is not without critics, particularly among Democrats. He is accused by some of limiting his selling job to the conservative ideology of the Reagan administration.

It is a good question to have him respond to at the October meeting.

Turn to page 4

Who's doing what, when, here, there, everywhere

Al Cullison, *Journal of Commerce* staff correspondent in Tokyo, and **Ken Whiting**, chief Southeast Asia correspondent for *The Associated Press* in Singapore, have agreed to serve on the new Overseas Committee chaired by Al Kaff. Committee members also will be appointed in Europe and Latin America.



KAFF

* * *

Jack Casserly, an *INS* reporter in the Korean War and an *ABC* correspondent in the Vietnam War, has joined the *Hearst* news organization in New York City. "I've come home," Jack said. *Hearst* owned *INS* before it merged with *United Press* in 1958 to form the present *UPI*. Among his other jobs: *ABC* in Paris, New York, Rome and Washington; *CBS* Network News; Ford Motor Co.; U.S. Census Bureau; White House speech writer; and editorial writer for *The Arizona Republic*.

* * *

Hajima (Jimmy) Horikawa, general manager of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, retired in August after working for the press club in Tokyo since 1947. Jimmy started as a night elevator boy and worked up the ranks to the club's top administrative job. Over four decades, Jimmy met thousands of foreign correspondents, always with a warm smile on his face.

* * *

OPC'er **Rose McKee** spends half the year writing her national affairs column from Newfoundland and Toronto for the *Key West Citizen*. Usually, her columns consist of exclusives which, she says, often beat out Jack Anderson who sits above her space on the editorial page.

This summer, though, she is intrigued by the international affairs of long ago. It seems that 23,000 of over 100,000 American troops stationed in Newfoundland 50 years ago married "Newfie" girls and 5,000 of those have returned (or will be) for a reunion with vets and their brides who have settled down there.

* * *

Eddie Tseng, one of the early foreign correspondents to work in Japan after World War II, is seriously ill with lung cancer in Veterans' Hospital in Taiwan. His illness was diagnosed in Singapore this summer while he was traveling to Istanbul. Tseng spent many years as a correspondent in Japan and Hong Kong for *Central News Agency* of Taiwan. Before retiring, he edited a *Kuomintang* newspaper in Hong Kong.

* * *

Ernie Hoberecht, who covered Asia for United Press International from World War II until he returned to the United States in 1966, was elected secretary of the Oklahoma State Board of Corrections in July. The board supervises Oklahoma's penal institutions. Now a businessman in Watonga, Oklahoma, Hoberecht was vice president and general manager of UPI's operations in Asia for 13 years.

* * *

Former OPC President **Anita Diamont** who seems always to be packing and unpacking her suitcase, was in Austin, Texas, Sept. 23-25 conducting a workshop for the Austin Writer's League.

If member **Col. Barney Oldfield** keeps scrapbooks of all the media coverage of his activities, he needs a long, sturdy shelf on which to store them. Current newspaper clippings describe his recent trip to Germany where he arranged for a lottery-winning couple to come to the U.S. to enjoy a seven-day cruise on the *Mississippi Queen*. Later, in Moscow, he met a Soviet executive who had long yearned to see an American soldier he first met on the Elbe River during the last days of World War II. With only the American's name to go by, Barney did some first class investigation, successfully arranging for these two old soldiers to meet in Los Angeles.

* * *

Barrett McGurn who was OPC president 1963-65 has reached another pinnacle. The Carroll Publishing Company, publishers of the two weekly newspapers of the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, has announced that McGurn has become its president and chief executive officer.

* * *



Taylor

Frank Taylor has good reason to be sympathetic to victims of the monsoon rains in Bangladesh. Last summer, he was among a dozen journalists who made their ways into the seldom-traveled watery interior to exchange friendships with Bangladeshi families. Catastrophic floods have made oceans of a quarter of the nation, including the area where they visited.

Since then Taylor has spent three weeks in China, a few weeks in Colorado helping to build a mountain trail, and a few more on Elsmere Island near the North Pole marveling at the unusual species of birds. Then he flew off to Rio just to be nice to himself for his birthday. He has just been elected into the Explorer's Society. Naturally!

Yet with all the peregrinations, he managed to be in New York in August to launch the paperback version of his book, "Alberta Hunter: A Celebration in Blues."

* * *

Don't buy it until you find out what it's worth. And if there's one person to ask what it's worth, it's former journalist and longtime OPC member, **Louis Zara**. He has just become president of the Appraisers Association of America.

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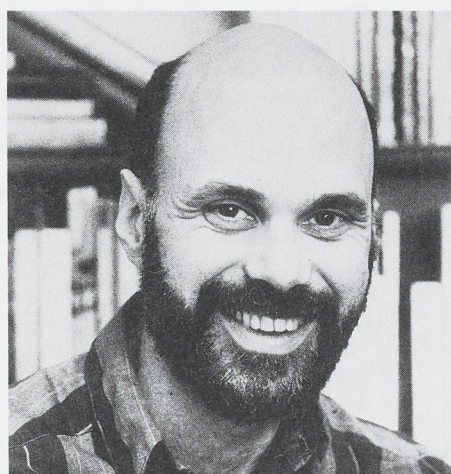
Ruth Cobbett Biemiller, veteran OPC'er, is back from a Smithsonian study tour of the waterways of western Europe. There she did research for her coming book, "Flute and Loom." It covers the French Huguenot role in settling New Amsterdam.

Ruth reports that in hotels in England, France, Spain and Portugal you can get the news in English broadcast by CNN. "It's great if you're a news junkie, like me," she says, "but a bane if you're trying to get away from it all."

* * *

Walter H. Diamond and his wife, **Dorothy**, have just returned from the Channel Islands. **Diamond** who publishes *Overseas Press and Consultants* and is a columnist for *Financial Times*, spoke to the Association of Trustees and Administrators at the Island of Guernsey.

News With Capital 'N' Topic for November



Are we more obsessed with news than ever before? Is an element of sensationalism inherent in the news? Just what makes news *news*?

If you think you know, you may be challenged by what Mitchell Stephens has to say Tuesday, November 15, when he will be Book Night speaker.

The young associate professor at New York University has written "A History of News—From the Drum to the Satellite," which, he emphasizes, is NOT about journalism but about news as a given in human culture.

Publisher's Weekly had this praise for Stephen's work: "It is a solid history made even more absorbing by the universal fascination with gossip, gore and the supernatural and trenchant observations about the relationship between society and the news it consumes."

Stephens has written two other books, "Broadcast News," and "Writing and Reporting the News."

Book Night, which begins at 5:30 p.m., will be held at the Women's Republican Club, 3 W. 51st. St., New York City.

Don't Be Modest!

One of the Bulletin's prime missions is to keep members informed about what others in the club are doing and what's happening in all parts of the world.

Overseas members: Send items to Al Kaff, Cornell University News Service, 840 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850-1548.

Domestic members: Drop a note or clip to Ralph Gardner, OPC Bulletin, Suite 2116, 310 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Pictures welcomed, too!

Letter From the Editor

Promises! Promises! Help Me Keep Them

I have accepted the appointment from OPC President Len Saffir as editor of the OPC *Bulletin* with the usual enthusiasm of a new broom.

While OPC is marking time until it can settle into its own home and while Al Kaff is working hard at strengthening the overseas wing of our membership, the *Bulletin* must glue us together.

So I see a bigger *Bulletin* with more news about more members and more

pictures and all of it getting to you fast. But it needs help and it needs money.

I see raising the money through both display and classified advertising. Classifieds are interesting. And we are a good market for everything from word processors to great lunch spots.

I see getting the help from you, especially the new members whose talents are largely untapped. Doing original reporting for the *Bulletin* is a wonderful way to make friends and to show what you can do.

However, I've been told by many that all my dreams have been dreamed before. They have come to nothing because OPC members don't help. Most think their obligation to the club ends with paying dues, an alarming number of OPC people tell me.

Say it isn't so.

Better yet show me. Call 212-945-0466 or drop a line to 350 Albany St., Apt. 4Q, New York, 10280. Tell me you're willing to make phone calls, cover a meeting, dash off a few paragraphs, re-read the copy, take pictures, draw cartoons, help acquire advertising. Something. Anything.

If you do, I'll keep my promises.

—Jean Sprain Wilson

OPC Secretary's Eighth Book Out

Jean Baer, newly elected club secretary is beaming over the response to her eighth book, *Making Life Right When It Feels, All Wrong*.

It was published July 12 by Rawson, a Macmillan imprint. Co-authored with her husband, Dr. Herbert Fensterheim, a clinical professor at Cornell University Medical College, this marks their third collaboration. Their other books were *Don't Say Yes When You Want to Say No* (three million copies sold to date), and *Stop Running Scared!*

Making Life Right When it Feels All Wrong introduces the integrative technique of behavioral psychotherapy to the general public, focusing on problems of emotional victims. *Ladies Home Journal* ran an excerpt in its July issue, *Health* featured it in June. It's a Troll Book Club selection and both British hardcover and paperback rights have already been sold to Futura.

—Ralph Gardner



Gelb says

No War Clouds Over Election

Taking less Excedrin this Presidential campaign? It may be because this time neither of the candidates is predicting the end of the world. According to Leslie H. Gelb, this is unique, indeed.

Espionage, nuclear expansion, hostage-taking—a disturbing foreign situation of one kind or another has cast doom on the elections for more than a half century, he pointed out during his speech last month to OPC members and guests at the Women's Republican Club.

President Eisenhower's nemesis was the U-2 incident; Johnson had Vietnam, Carter had the hostages, he said. Ah, but this time there are no threatening issues. Now George Bush and Michael Dukakis must focus on domestic issues, which they did in their first debate.

Gelb's speech was titled, "The Election and Foreign Policy." He is deputy editorial page editor at *The New York Times*.

NEW APPLICATIONS

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENTS

Dotson Rader—Contributing Editor, Parade Magazine

Sponsors: Larry Smith, Herbert Kupferberg

Herbert G. Stein—Producer, WQED (Public Broadcasting) Pittsburgh

Sponsors: Jerry Vondas, Larry Smith

Jack Walsh—President, Lenox Communications

Sponsors: H.L. Stevenson, Fred Ferguson

Steven Zorbas—Broadcast Engineer, WQED (Public Broadcasting), Pittsburgh

Sponsors: Jerry Vondas, Larry Smith

CLASSIFIED

FILL THIS SPACE WITH YOUR AD! Help build the Bulletin. Seek, sell, or swap items and services. Rent, sell your real estate. Fifteen dollar minimum for up to three lines. \$1.75 for each line thereafter. Check must accompany typed copy supplied to OPC by 24th of month preceding publication. Display rates available upon request.

FOR A BOOK ON TIPPING—Hard information and anecdotes from persons involved while at work or play in U.S. and abroad. Write J.S. Wilson, 350 Albany St.—Apt. 4Q. NYC 10280.

HELP WANTED—An artist to offer appropriate cartoons and generic drawings for OPC Bulletin. Pay? Modest fame and much gratitude. Phone J.S. Wilson—212-945-0466.

UPI Relocates in New York

After 57 years in the Daily News building, UPI has moved its New York bureau to a West Side address, and for three staff members it was a familiar one.

UPI acquired Acme Photos in the mid-1950s, when the picture agency was located at 5 Penn Plaza. Photo personnel moved in 1959 to the Daily News building, on East 42nd St. to complete the integration.

Larry DeSantis, New York photo chief, Wally Ehlers, photographer, and Frank Mrocka, telephoto engineer, all worked for Acme in the 5 Penn Plaza building, and took part in the recent move back.

The new address is 5 Penn Plaza, 461 Eighth Ave., 16th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10001-1803. Telephone: 212-560-1100. Judith Watson is the New York news manager, with DeSantis heading up pictures.

UPI's world headquarters were established in the News building in 1931, and remained there until shifted to Washington in 1983, after the news service was sold by Scripps-Howard.

The New York bureau consists of about 100 people, with the main business news desk, sports desk, Metro desk, pictures and several feature writers still based in the city.

Sloane's A Bargain

From page 1

happily, and sometimes personal checks with persuasion.

In New York at any of the five clubs open to OPC members while the 41st Street facility is being renovated the gold Chemists' Club card is as good as its color. These are;

CLUB 101—101 Park Ave. (40th St.) (212) 687-1045. Lunch only.

CITY MIDDAY CLUB—140 Broadway (Wall St.) (212) 422-5465. Breakfast, Lunch.

THE PRINCETON CLUB—15 West 43rd St. (212) 840-6400. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

THE WILLIAMS CLUB—24 East 39th St. (212) 697-5300. Lunch, Dinner. Hotel Accommodations Available.

THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CLUB—3 West 51st St. (212) 582-5454. Breakfast (7:30-10:00 AM), Lunch, Dinner, Hotel Accommodations.

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

The Overseas Press Club Bulletin (ISSN-0738-7202) is published monthly, except August, for \$24 per year to members, included in dues, by the Overseas Press Club of America, New York, N.Y. 10017. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y.

Jean Sprain Wilson, Editor: Bob Dunphy, Fred Ferguson, Ralph Gardner, Associate Editors.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Overseas Press Club, 310 Madison Avenue, Suite 2116, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
310 Madison Avenue
Suite 2116
New York, N.Y. 10017
(ISSN-0738-7202)

UP Movietone Exec

W.R. Higginbotham, who headed the TV newsfilm operation of *United Press* after a career as reporter for the service in Europe, died in Washington Sept. 21 during a business trip. "Hig" took over Movietone news, when UP began serving television stations around the world with newsfilm clips following World War II, which he covered as a reporter. The 74-year-old Higginbotham lived in Fort Worth, Texas, where in recent years he was a sales representative for *The New York Times* syndicate and news service. He worked as an editor for *King Features* after leaving UP.

NPPA Founder

Joseph Costa, a longtime *New York Daily News* photographer and founder of the National Press Photographers Assn., died Aug. 1. He was 84. Costa retired from the News in 1947 after 20 years. He was later a photo instructor at Ball State University, and was a photo supervisor for *King Features*.

UPI London Editor

Michael J. Dennigan, 53, editor and reporter for UPI in Europe for 30 years, died of an apparent heart attack while asleep at his home near London July 18. He worked in Paris, Cairo, Brussels and London. Known by colleagues and competitors for his genial Irish wit, his reporting assignments included the 1967 Middle East War. His wife, Kathryn, died in May after a long illness.